

IN THE CLAIMS

These claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

1.(Previously Presented) A watermarking system comprising:

a watermark encoder that is configured to apply a watermark to each of a plurality of segments of content material to form a plurality of watermarked segments, and

a size generator that is configured to control a size of the watermark that is applied to each of the plurality of segments, based on a random process, so that at least two watermarked segments of the plurality of watermarked segments have different watermark sizes in order for authorization of at least one of the plurality of watermarked segments be determined based on the watermark and based on the size of the watermark.

2.(Original) The watermarking system of claim 1, further comprising:

a segmenter, operably coupled to the size generator and the watermark encoder, that is configured to control a size of each segment of the plurality of segments, based on an output of the size generator, wherein

the size of the watermark that is applied to each of the plurality of segments is based on the size of each segment of the plurality of segments.

3.(Previously Presented) The watermarking system of claim 2, wherein the size generator controls the size of each segment.

Claims 4-6 (Cancelled)

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7.(Previously Presented) The watermarking system of claim 1, wherein

the random process is initialized by a seed value that is based on one or more data items in the content material.

8.(Previously Presented) The watermarking system of claim 1, wherein

the random process is initialized by a seed value, and

the watermarking system is further configured to include the seed value in at least one of the plurality of watermarked segments.

9.(Original) The watermarking system of claim 1, wherein

the size generator is further configured to control a variance of the sizes of the plurality of segments.

10.(Original) The watermarking system of claim 1, wherein

the size generator is further configured to control the size of the watermark based on one or more sizes of other segments of the plurality of segments.

11.(Previously Presented) An encoding system comprising:

a segmenter that is configured to segment content material into a plurality of segments, and

a size generator, operably coupled to the segmenter, that is configured to control a size of each of the plurality of segments, based on a random process, so that at least two segments of the

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plurality of segments have different sizes in order for authorization of at least one of the plurality of segments be determined based on the content material of said at least one of the plurality of segments and based on the size of said at least one of the plurality of segments.

12.(Original) The encoding system of claim 11, further including

a watermark encoder that is configured to apply a watermark to each of the plurality of segments of content material to form a plurality of watermarked segments.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

14.(Previously Presented) The encoding system of claim 11, wherein

the random process is initialized by a seed value that is based on one or more data items in the content material.

15.(Previously Presented) The encoding system of claim 11, wherein

the random process is initialized by a seed value, and  
the encoding system is further configured to include the seed value in at least one of the plurality of segments.

16.(Previously Presented) The encoding system of claim 11, wherein

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the size generator further controls the size of each segment based on one or more sizes of other segments of the plurality of segments.

17.(Original) A security system comprising:

a watermark detector that is configured to determine an information item from a watermarked segment of watermarked content material and to determine a size of the information item, and

an authorization device, operably coupled to the watermark detector, that is configured to determine an authorization of the watermarked segment, based on the information item and based on the size of the information item.

18.(Original) The security system of claim 17, further including

a random size generator, operably coupled to the authorization device, that is configured to provide an authorized size of the information item based on a seed value, wherein

the authorization device is configured to determine the authorization based on a comparison of the size of the information item and the authorized size of the information item.

19.(Original) The security system of claim 18, wherein

the seed value is included in the watermarked content material.

Claims 20-27.(Canceled)